

TENNESSEE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY TASKFORCE MEETING MINUTES

DATE: October 14, 2020
TIME: 9:00 A.M., CST
LOCATION: Health Related Boards
WebEx-Teleconference
665 Mainstream Drive
Nashville, TN

TASKFORCE MEMBERS

PRESENT: Christopher Cooper, O.D. – Chair
Torrey Carlson, O.D.
Dennis Mathews, O.D.
Rick Orgain, O.D.
James Venable, O.D.

STAFF

PRESENT: Kimberly Wallace, Executive Director
Lyndsey Boone, Board Manager
Kaitlin Parham, Assistant General Counsel
Yvette Vagle, Board Administrator

Call to Order

This meeting was convened electronically, via WebEx, due to the gathering restrictions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. The meeting was called to order at 9:09 AM CST. A roll call of the Taskforce Members and Board staff present was initiated by Kimberly Wallace, Unit 3 Director.

- Dr. Carlson
- Dr. Cooper
- Dr. Mathews
- Dr. Orgain
- Dr. Venable
- Board Manager, Lyndsey Boone
- Board Admin, Yvette Vagle
- Board Attorney, Kaitlin Parham

Necessity of Meeting

Ms. Wallace informed all present that prior to proceeding with the electronic meeting, certain criteria for continuing with an electronic meeting must be met. To ensure the meeting proceeded

according to guidelines, Ms. Wallace requested that each Taskforce Member and Staff Member confirm they were able to hear one another. All confirmed.

Next, Ms. Wallace reminded all present that this Taskforce was created by the TN Board of Optometry for the purpose of reviewing strategic long-term planning items for the Board. Because this Taskforce was unable to convene in a physical location today to consider these matters - in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, for which the TN Governor and Mayor of Nashville recommended limiting the number of attendees at meetings - this WebEx remote meeting was deemed necessary.

A motion was made by Dr. Venable to proceed with the electronic meeting, with a second made by Dr. Carlson.

Discussion: None OR As Follows

A roll call vote was conducted:

Dr. Carlson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RECUSED	<input type="checkbox"/> ABSTAIN
Dr. Cooper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RECUSED	<input type="checkbox"/> ABSTAIN
Dr. Mathews	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RECUSED	<input type="checkbox"/> ABSTAIN
Dr. Orgain	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RECUSED	<input type="checkbox"/> ABSTAIN
Dr. Venable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RECUSED	<input type="checkbox"/> ABSTAIN

The motion passed. YES NO

In addition, all Taskforce Members were asked to acknowledge whether they had received, prior to this meeting, copies of all the materials and documents that were to be discussed at this meeting.

- Dr. Carlson
- Dr. Cooper
- Dr. Mathews
- Dr. Orgain
- Dr. Venable

All Taskforce Members present confirmed that they did receive the materials prior to the meeting.

Finally, only certain matters are proper for a teleconference; accordingly, Dr. Mathews made a motion and a second followed by Dr. Cooper that the matters to be discussed met the following requirements:

The subject matter requires timely action;

The physical presence of all members is not possible considering the period of time required for action; and

The participation by some or all of the members of the Committee by electronic means is necessary.

Discussion: None OR As Follows

A roll call vote was conducted:

Dr. Carlson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RECUSED	<input type="checkbox"/> ABSTAIN
Dr. Cooper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RECUSED	<input type="checkbox"/> ABSTAIN
Dr. Mathews	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RECUSED	<input type="checkbox"/> ABSTAIN
Dr. Orgain	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RECUSED	<input type="checkbox"/> ABSTAIN
Dr. Venable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RECUSED	<input type="checkbox"/> ABSTAIN

The motion passed. YES NO

This satisfied the requirements for a teleconference.

Public Comments

It was noted that Public Comments would be heard during this meeting. Instructions were provided for all attendees via the WebEx system and phone call-in options. It was reminded that the Taskforce may only take action on items that are listed on the agenda.

Vote for Committee Chair

A call was made for nominations for the role of Taskforce Chair. There were no nominations made. Dr. Cooper volunteered to serve as Chairperson.

A second opportunity was given for nominations to be made, with none heard. Ms. Parham confirmed that it was acceptable for the Taskforce to accept Dr. Cooper's offer to volunteer as the Committee Chair.

A roll call vote was conducted on the matter of Dr. Cooper serving as Committee Chair:

Dr. Carlson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RECUSED	<input type="checkbox"/> ABSTAIN
Dr. Cooper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RECUSED	<input type="checkbox"/> ABSTAIN
Dr. Mathews	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RECUSED	<input type="checkbox"/> ABSTAIN
Dr. Orgain	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RECUSED	<input type="checkbox"/> ABSTAIN
Dr. Venable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RECUSED	<input type="checkbox"/> ABSTAIN

Dr. Cooper was appointed as the Taskforce Chairperson.

Review and Discuss Strategic Long-Term Planning Items for the Board of Optometry

Ms. Wallace informed the Taskforce that the original motion that was approved by the Optometry Board at their meeting on July 8, 2020, was to establish a taskforce that would review and make recommendations for long range strategic planning items for the Tennessee Board of Optometry, with emphasis on active rules and regulations to benefit the public that is served by the Board, with suggested topics to include but not be limited to:

- A review of the Board's Cumulative Carryover funds
- Interstate licensing/reciprocity
- Considerations during a state of emergency, such as online continuing education, testing, and temporary licensure
- Patient access to any willing providers
- Legislative engagement
- Evaluations of vision care colleges

The Taskforce Members provided a short introduction for themselves and their prior experiences in strategic planning and then held a lengthy discussion that involved many facets of Board history, personal experiences, and opinions by the Taskforce Members on various ways to approach the work of the Taskforce.

It was determined that the Taskforce Members would each submit their recommendations for this Committee to the Board Administrative Office, so that they could be distributed to all Members as working documents for review before the next meeting.

The next meeting of this Taskforce was scheduled for December 16, 2020, at 9:00am CST.

Call for Public Comment

Ms. Wallace stated that the meeting would be opened one final time for Public Comments and reminded all participants of the instructions for making a comment via the WebEx virtual meeting platform. She reminded all participants that the Taskforce may only take action on items that were listed on today's agenda.

Public Comment was given by Martha Gentry, who asked about public distribution of the documents submitted by the Taskforce Members with their comments ahead of the next Taskforce Meeting. Ms. Parham stated she would follow-up with her on this item.

Dr. Cooper thanked everyone for their participation.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Dr. Venable to adjourn with a second made by Dr. Carlson.

Discussion: None OR As Follows

A roll call vote was conducted:

Dr. Carlson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RECUSED	<input type="checkbox"/> ABSTAIN
Dr. Cooper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RECUSED	<input type="checkbox"/> ABSTAIN
Dr. Mathews	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RECUSED	<input type="checkbox"/> ABSTAIN
Dr. Orgain	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RECUSED	<input type="checkbox"/> ABSTAIN
Dr. Venable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RECUSED	<input type="checkbox"/> ABSTAIN

The motion passed. YES NO

This meeting of the Optometry Strategic Planning Taskforce was adjourned at 10:59am CST.

These Minutes were Ratified by the Board of Optometry on January 6, 2021.



Board Chair

5/14/2021

Date